

REMARKS

Entry of the foregoing amendments, prior to examination, is respectfully requested. Specific support for the newly-introduced claims may be found at least at the following portions of the as-filed disclosure.

- Claim 15: original Claim 1, page 12, lines 13-15;
- Claim 16: original Claim 1, et seq.;
- Claim 17: page 12, lines 13-15, et seq.;
- Claim 18: page 14, lines 14-18;
- Claim 19: original Claim 1, page 24, paragraph 1 et seq.;
- Claim 20: original Claim 2;
- Claim 21: page 10, lines 21-24;
- Claim 22: page 12, lines 1-8 et seq.;
- Claim 23: page 15, lines 11-26;
- Claim 24: page 15 lines 11-26;
- Claim 25: page 15, lines 11-26;
- Claim 26: Example 1;
- Claim 27: page 15, lines 5-10, 26-30, et seq.;
- Claim 28: original Claim 3;

Claim 29: original Claim 2;
Claim 30: page 15, lines 27-30;
Claim 31: page 15, lines 27-36;
Claim 32: page 15, lines 27-30 et seq.;
Claim 33: page 10, lines 9-12;
Claim 34: page 10, lines 7-9;
Claim 35: page 11, lines 10-14;
Claim 36: page 11, Example 2;
Claim 37: page 17, lines 3-7, original Claim 14;
Claim 38: Example 3;
Claim 39: Example 2;
Claim 40: Example 1;
Claim 41: Example 2;
Claim 42: original Claim 12;
Claim 43: original Claim 13;
Claim 44: original Claim 14;
Claim 45: original Claim 14;
Claim 46: original Claim 14;

Claim 47: original Claim 5;
Claim 48: original Claim 14;
Claim 49: page 35, lines 18-20;
Claim 50: page 35, lines 18-20.
Claim 51: original Claims 1, 12 and 14;
Claim 52: page 17, lines 3-7, Example 3, page 35, lines 18-22;
Claim 53: original Claim 14;
Claim 54: Example 3;
Claim 55: page 19, lines 1-2;
Claim 56: Example 2;
Claim 57: Example 2;
Claim 58: page 11, lines 5-9;
Claim 59: page 11, lines 5-9;
Claim 60: page 10, lines 17-18;
Claim 61: page 11, lines 1-9;
Claim 62: page 11, lines 1-9;
Claim 63, page 11, lines 1-9.

The Examiner is respectfully thanked for the courteous interview held with Myun Ki Han, S. Paul Lee; (Inventors), two representatives of Georgetown University, the Assignee of this application, and the undersigned.

During the interview, proposed claims were presented which correspond substantially to those submitted herewith. Specific support for these claims is identified above. This identification is meant to be exemplary and not exhaustive. Claim 15, the only independent claim, was discussed in particular during the interview. It is contemplated that this claim should be allowable for substantially the same reasons that the claims of the parent application (USP 5,763,181) were granted..

Also, several references were discussed at the interview, which are cited in the accompanying Information Disclosure Statement. As discussed during the interview, these references should not affect the patentability of the present claims. In particular, it was noted that Japanese Kokoku Patent Application Publication No. Hei 5-15439 (published March 1, 1993) fails to teach a continuous fluorimetric assay as claimed herein. This is apparent, e.g., based on page 5, lines 27-29, of the document, and the Examples.

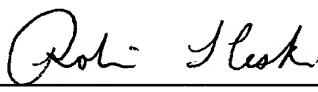
Further, the other references are believed to be no more relevant than prior art considered during prosecution of the parent application, now U.S. Patent 5,763,181.

Also, based on the interview, a Terminal Disclaimer is provided to preclude a double patenting rejection based on U.S. Patent 5,763,181.

It is anticipated that this Preliminary Amendment and Terminal Disclaimer should place this application in condition for allowance. A Notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

By: 
Robin L. Teskin
Registration No. 35,030

P.O. Box 1404
Alexandria, VA 22313-1404
(703) 836-6620

Date: March 4, 1999